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A GLADIOLUS LISTING FROM THE GARDENS OF  
MERLE D. ALLEN  
P. O. BOX 23  
OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

1953-1954

L I S T  
R E P R E S E N T A T I O N  
1953-1954  
Department of Agriculture

Most glad growers are interested in the people they buy their bulbs from, and want to know something about them. So, here's a short story of my operations. Like many others, I started in the back yard, and it has grown to the point where I now raise about  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre on a farm near Owatonna, and I use new ground for my glads each year. I have a full time job, so the glads are taken care of after my regular working day is over with the help of a Ford Pick-up, a rototiller, and outside labor. I have been hybridizing for several years, and am placing my first seedling, "White Wedgwood", on the market with this listing. I make every effort I know of to keep my stock clean and healthy, and my inspection reports from the Department of Agriculture, Dairy and Food, St. Paul, Minnesota have been excellent. This year's stock has been inspected and I have been issued certificate No. 2263.

Of course, being a small grower, my stock is limited, but I will supply you, subject to previous sale, at the following prepaid retail prices.

1954 INTRODUCTION

300 WHITE WEDGWOOD (Allen 54)  
Genghis Kahn x Wedgwood  
80 to 85 Days

After several years of hybridizing I have been asked by growers and glad fanciers to introduce White Wedgwood. Baskets of it shown at glad shows have been sensational and resulted in orders and demand for stock. It is not being introduced as the "cure-all" in the 300 white class, but rather as one of the best commercial or bouquet whites in its class. It has inherited the intense ruffling of its parents, it has the form of Wedgwood, it is pure white with a slight cream tinge in the throat, will open 5 or 6 on a 14 to 16 bud spike, averages about 48 inches in height, and has excellent texture and attachment, blooming from all sizes. It opens well in water and has excellent keeping qualities. It is very uniform in height, and for one needing a good white to cut, this is a splendid candidate. It will hold its own on the show table, although it does not have the height of some other 300 whites, winning the blue ribbon in the 3 spike open class in the 1953 Minnesota Gladiolus Show. It is being introduced at a ridiculous price so all can enjoy it. Beautiful glads often come wrapped in small packages, and I think this is one of them.

PRICES - Any size bulb, each 50¢, 12 for \$5.  
1 Large, 1 Medium, 1 Small, 10 Blts. for \$1.50.  
5 Large, 5 Medium, 15 Small, 100 Blts. for \$10.

Small Growers Special

5 Large and 200 Blts - A \$10 value for \$8.

Large Growers Special

10 Large and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt of Blts - A \$30 value for \$25.



1954 SPECIALS

COLUMBIA (Roberts 51) 407 I have a large stock of this excellent glad so am giving you the benefit of it. It is a beautiful creamy white with a definite rose edging. It was introduced as an improved Corona, and it is that. It opens 7 or 8 lightly waved florets at once on fairly tall spikes that are straight. It is one of the finest of the late introductions.

L/.40, M/.25, S/.15, Blts./10 for .30, 100 for \$2.00. 10L/ \$3.20, 10M/ \$2.00, 10S/ \$1.20,  $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. Blts \$15.

DARK DAVID (Morgan 50) 554 You all know this huge black red. Growers sell it out early each year, and I don't know of anyone else who can offer a special on it. As far as I know, I was the original importer of this glad from Australia. It makes excellent spikes, a sure winner in its class on the show table. For several years I have sold my surplus of this one to catalogers, but this year I want my own customers to have advantage of it. I planted every bulblet of this one I had in the Spring of 1953, and have harvested a good crop, largely mediums and number 2's. You can take advantage of it at these prices: L/.50, M/.30, S/.20, Blts 10 for .25, 100 for \$2. 10L/ \$4, 10M/ \$2.40, 10S/ \$1.60.

RECENT INTRODUCTIONS

CHINOOK (Lines 49) 532 Giant clear salmon self that can make marvelous spikes with many florets open on very tall stems. A beautiful color and liked by everyone. Bulblets germinate slowly. L/ .50, M/ .35, S/ .20, Blts. 10 for .25, 100 for \$2.

CREAM ORCHIDS (Fischer 51) 406 A nice cream novelty glad with florets so heavily crimped and ruffled that they appear to be quite lacinated. Six medium sized flowers of clear cream color will open at once on tall wiry stems. It will also bloom for an entire season, there being no particular flowering date.  
L/ .40, M/ .30, S/ .20, Blts 10 for 25¢

CROWN JEWEL (Fischer 51) 467 Light rosy lavender with violet darts on lip petals and a small cream border. Lovely frilled florets with about 6 open.  
L/ .40.

CRUSADER (Fischer 52) 301 One of my favorites. Not large or very tall, but very pretty. A frilled snow white with deep lavender throat spears. A real color gem. L/ \$1, M/ .75, S/ .50, Blts. 10 for .75.

CHIVILARY (Fischer 52) 466 A smooth lavender self with scarcely any creaminess or markings in the throat. Quite a glad and a good grower. L/ .40, M/ .30, S/ .20.

CYNTHIA (Graff 49) 410 An early, soft shade of attractive yellow which attains good height. This one has nice placement and pleasant form with wide-open and recurved florets which are slightly frilled. One of the best for early cutting, making marvelous bouquets. L/ .25, M/ .20, S/ .15, Blts. 10 for 20.

CLARENCE D. FORTNAM (Kadel 50) 440 A beauty which is blush pink in color. Its 5-inch florets, heavily ruffled and needlepoint are borne on a 24-inch flowerhead with 8 of its 21 buds open and showing color. Bulblet production and germination are excellent. L/ .40, M/ .30, Blts. 10 for 40.



DOLLY VARDEN (Harris 50) 533 Huge deep bright salmon pink with large white throat. One of the largest glads I know of. Spikes are consistently tall and straight, and color most attractive. This is one of the best huge glads.  
L/ .35, M/ .25, S/ 2 for .30, Blts. 10 for .30, 100 for \$2.40.

ELMER'S ROSE (Fischer 51) 466 In many ways, I think this glad is better than its sister seedling Noweta Rose. The color is marvelous, a bright lavender rose with deeper rose feather, making it very attractive. One of the finest of the deep lavenders. L/ .40, M/ .30, S/ .20, Blts 10 for .30.

GOLD (Marshall 51) 412 This is one of the most beautiful of the deep yellows. The color and ruffling are its greatest assets for it does lack a little in bud count and length of flowerhead. However, it is one of the best in its class.  
L/ .50, M/ .35, S/ .25, Blts 10 for .35.

GAY 90'S (Krueger 51) 390 Here is one of my favorites in the AOC. This one really grows tall and is a sure winner. Its color is reminiscent of the Gay 90's, being a ripe plum color with a blending of purple. It can open 5 or 6 with a good flower head. L/ .25, M/ .15.

GINGER (Fischer 52) 422 Deep salmon orange blending into yellow, scarlet throat. Opens 5 or 6 medium sized heavily ruffled florets in informal arrangement.  
L/ .75, M/ .50, S/ .35, Blts. 10 for .40.

HEIRLOOM (Klein 52) 566 Clear medium lavender with small pure white throat and midrib lines. 7 or 8 nicely frilled florets will open at once on spikes of medium height. Has won many prizes at the shows, and I have seen marvelous spikes of it.  
S/ \$1.00, Blts 1 for .25, 10 for \$2.00.

KING DAVID (Carlson 51) 570 A beautiful royal purple with slightly deeper red-purple lips. Florets are of the wide-flaring type, with at least 7 open at once. Spikes are slender and straight, and the ruffled florets have a narrow silver edging around the petals. L/ .50, M/ .35, S/ .20, Blts 10 for .30, 100 for \$2.40.  
16L/ \$4, 10M \$2.80, 10S/ \$1.60.

KING SIZE (Hartman 53) 531 The giant of giants, a huge medium-light pink with deep pink throat markings. Up to 8 or 9 open at a time on very tall, strong spikes. Can be a dream for the exhibitor. Only bubbles for sales this year, 1 for .25, 10 for \$2.

KNIGHTHOOD (Fischer 52) 470 A true pansy purple with plain petalled round florets. It rates high in beauty with its heavy substance, lustrous sheen and neat compact spikes. L/ .60, M/ .40, S/ .25.

LAVENDER BEAUTY (Kolb 50) 466 A lovely pinkish lavender of uniform coloring. A true orchid shade that is just a little pinker than "The Queen". Opens about 7 nicely frilled florets on uniform spikes. I have a seedling just a little lighter than this one, but much taller, that I expect to put on the market in 1955.  
L/ .20, M/ 2 for .25, S/ 3 for .25, Blts 20 for .25.

LILA WALLACE (Fairchild 47) 464 This is sometimes called the Cinderella Glad. It is much like Burma only smaller, and is beautifully ruffled and fluted.  
L/ .30, M/ 2 for .20, S/ 3 for .25, Blts 40 for .25/



MOTHER FISCHER (Fischer 51) 400 A clear white with very slight lavender throat markings, heavily ruff ed, and a strong, vigorous grower. This one may be one of our best 400 whites. L/ .40, M/ .30, S/ .20, Blts. 10 for .25.

MAGNET (Fischer 52) 560 A worthy rival for Noweta Rose in floret size, height and vigor. The color is a delightful deep orchid rose. It's habits are generally good, and it excells in florescence. L/ .25, M/ .15, S/ 2 for .20, Blts 20 for .15.

NORDIC QUEEN (Fischer 52) 540 A very large pale pink with an inner glow of cream from the center, a lovely pastel shade. Florets are not heavily ruffled, but are lightly waved and quite fluted with raised midribs. A real beauty. L/ .75, M/ .50, S/ .35, Blts 10 for .50.

NOWETA ROSE (Fischer 50) 563 Dark rosy lavender with a red-violet throat smear. Florets are extra large, waved and fluted. Opens many on a tall stem, and can make a sensational spike, a very frequent show winner. L/ .40.

PAINTED LADY (Roberts 52) 443 There are many pink glads, but here is one that is truly different. Pure pink, with the creamy white lip petals outlined and bordered bright scarlet-pink. Florets are ruffled and fluted and six will open at a time. L/ .75, M/ .50, S/ .3 , Blts 4 for .5, 10 for .50, 100 for \$4.

POINSETTIA (Johnson-weeks 52) Excellent scarlet of uniform coloring and the ability to make consistently good spikes. It opens six to eight good-sized flowers on tall spikes. You will like this Christmas color. L/ .50, M/ .35, S/ .20, Blts 10 for .40.

PINK CLASSIC (Melk 51) 540 Pink Classic is a heavily ruffled and fluted pink, overlaid deeper pink and blending to a lighter throat. The plant grows to a good height, spikes carry many buds with 7 or 8 open. An excellent show glad and a good commercial. L/ .35, M/ .25, S/ .15, Blts 10 for 25, 100 for \$2.50.

ROYAL TREAT (Lins 52) Another dandy, this time a very dark red with rosy undertones. Florets are beautifully ruffled with full round petals of good substance. Grows tall with a well-balanced spike. Darker and redder than Burma. L/ .75, M/ .50, S/ .25, Blts 10 for .75.

SIERRA SNOW (Harris 51) 400 Big tall white with cream throat and faint darker lines. Capable of making tremendous exhibition spikes of champion caliber. Often grows 6 feet tall with many open. L/ .35, M/ .20, S/ 2 for .30. Blts 6 for .25, 30 for \$1.

SOUTHERN BELLE (Fischer 52) 483 Medium to deep pink with prominent white throat and a definite blue picotee edge. It generally has a smoky overcast, but in some localities grows as a pure pink. Florets are definitely frilled. L/ .75, M/ .50, S/ .35, Blts 10 for .50

STORMY WEATHER (Barrett 47) 582 A grand light-toned smoky that has been a favorite for years. Smooth rosy gray with some tan or salmon tints and a fine creamy throat with rose dots. An extra fine smoky. L/ .20.

SUMSPOT (Roberts 45) 417 A lovely apricot buff with a rosy red throat spot. It can open many ruffled flowers at once on spikes of average length. One of the older ones, but very good in its class. L/ .20, M/ 2 for 25.



THE RAJAH (Jack 51) 570 A very pleasing shade of rich royal purple characterizes this fine glad. The large, round, full-petaled florets are nicely ruffled, with at least 6 open at one time. L/ .25, M/ 2 for .35, S/ 3 for .30, Blts 10 for .20, 100 for \$1.50.

TRAIL'S END (Ficht 49) 563 Big, beautiful light orchid rose with a fairly large cream blotch. An extra vigorous grower that opens about 7 huge round flowers on tall husky stems. M/ 2 for .25, S/ 3 for .25. Blts 20 for .25, 100 for \$1.

TYRONE (Deam 52) 466 A clear light lavender with small cream-white center, very slightly darker stippling at the outer edge of the throat. Opens 7 to 9 in regular placement on nice spikes. L/ \$1, M/ .75, S/ .50, Blts 10 for \$1.

WHITE SYMPHONY (Webb 5A) 500 Nice large white with faint throat markings. A grand white that shows promise of being one of our finest large whites. L/ .50, M/ .35, S/ .25, Blts 10 for .50, 100 for \$4. 10L/ \$4, 10M/ \$2.80, 10S/ \$2.

WHITE TOWER (Lins 51) 501 An early blooming tall stately gladiolus that ranks among the best blotched whites. Florets are pure white with a deep pink blotch. Few glads come up to it in height, vigor and reliable performance. L/ .80, M/ .60, S/ .25, Blts 10 for .80.

#### ORDINARY VARIETIES

The following varieties are very well known and do not need much of a description. They are all priced the same. Of most varieties, I have all sizes for sale, but if such is not the case it will be noted. These are all wonderful glads, and sold at the following popular prices: Large: 2 for .25, 5 for .50, 10 for \$1, 25 for \$2; Medium: 3 for .25, 5 for .35, 10 for .70, 25 for \$1.40; Small, 5 for .25, 10 for .40, 25 for .80. Bubbles are sold at 25¢ per package.

ALL GLORY - A wonderful ruffled orange with purple blotch.

ABU HASSAN - (mediums only) The dark blue glad

ATOM - The great miniature scarlet with the silver edging.

BURMA - The king of all the ruffled rose glads.

BENJAMIN BRITTON - The tall, husky, 300 size lavender glad.

BRIDAL ORCHID - The husky light lavender

BELVIDERE - A fine dark red.

BEAUTY'S BLUSH - A great blush pink glad

CARNIVAL - One of the finest scarlet blotched glads

CARDINAL SPELLMAN - One of the finest purple rose glads that grows

DAWN GLOW - (Large and mediums only) A wonderful ruffled light lavender.

DIEPPE - (Mediums only) A wonderful scarlet orange

EVANGELINE - One of the finest large light pinks

FLAME GIRL - (Mediums and Small only) A fine bright scarlet color.

FRIENDSHIP - The finest of the true pinks. Very early.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE - The standard in the whites.

FROSTY - A fine, large orange smoky.

FIREGLEAN - One of the finest scarlets. (Mediums only)



GINE - An excellent early light yellow that is ruffled.

HEART O' GOLD - The early white glad with golden throat

LADY ANNE - A huge plain petaled early white that is excellent for cut flowers.

LA VALE - (Large and mediums only) A huge ruffled cream with throat blotch.

LIPSTICK - (Mediums only) One of the finest blotched pinks

OCTOBER SUNSHINE - (large only) A fine light orange

PREMA DONNA - (Large only) A huge creamy white, a sport of Picardy.

PATRON - (Mediums only) The tall buff that has won so many prizes.

PACTOLUS - One of the finest blotched light yellow glads on the market.

PASTELLINE - (Mediums only) A huge rose colored glad that does very well.

ROYAL ROBES - (Large and medium only) The classy dark red, classed 354.

RED CHERRY - The light red Picardy. Very popular, and early.

RED CHARM - (Mediums only) The standard in the red glads.

SWEET 16 - One of the finest of the light pinks.

SPIC & SPAN - The king of all glads. An excellent deep pink

SPORT OF ELIZABETH THE QUEEN - (Mediums only) A sort of a light gray sport  
of this great lavender that is very pretty.

SALUTE - (Large and mediums only) A fine red glad.

SALMON'S GLORY - The finest early blotched cream.

SPARKS - (Large and medium only) A fine late blotched yellow.

THE ROAN - (Mediums only) Sort of a dusty brown color, very big and pretty.

TROCADERO - (Large only) The carrot orange colored glad.

TREASURE ISLAND - (Mediums only) One of the finest in the hue light pinks.

VOO DOO - (Large and Medium only) A fine fluted brownish smoky.

VELVET MANTLE - (Large and Mediums only) A fine tall black red.

WHITE LACE - An excellent 300 white that is very white and very pretty.

WHITE MAGIC - An excellent ruffled white that is much in demand.

ZYLPA - (Large only) A very good purple that will open many.

COLLECTIONS - The following collections are just the thing for those who don't care to keep the names of varieties separate, but do want a nice garden of flowers. They are made up from the named varieties in this listing, along with others that I do not have enough stock of to list. They will give you a season of full bloom in the entire color range.

30 Large bulbs (each one different) \$2.00

50 Medium bulbs (entire color range) \$2.00

